UN

UNITED NATIONS

CERD

International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination

Distr.
GENERAL

CERD/C/339
13 January 1998

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fifty-second session
Geneva, 2-20 March 1998

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 2 to 20 March 1998. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 2 March. The last meeting will be convened at 3 p.m. on Friday, 20 March.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the fifty-second session of the Committee, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of States parties pursuant to early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure.

3. Election of officers.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters.

6. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

7. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

8. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

10. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session:

    (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

    (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

11. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General

The fifty-second session of the Committee will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General, who will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the nine members of the Committee elected or re-elected at the Seventeenth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention, to be held on 14 January 1998, will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

3. Election of officers

In accordance with article 10, paragraph 2, of the Convention and rules 15 and 16 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

Under rule 58 of the rules of procedure, elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

4. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

5. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fifty-second session.

6. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the

scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

Pursuant to decisions taken at its fifty-first session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fifty-second session, consideration of the situation in the following States parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Papua New Guinea and Rwanda. The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule consideration of other States parties at short notice.

In pursuance of established practice, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which they are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of States parties under this item is set forth in the timetable below.

7. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fifty-second session, the Committee will consider reports received from the following States parties: Armenia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Czech Republic, Israel, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Ukraine and Yugoslavia.

Pursuant to decisions taken at its fifty-first session, the Committee has scheduled, at its fifty-second session, a review of the implementation of the Convention in a number of States parties that have previously submitted reports but from which periodic reports are seriously overdue. Those States parties are: Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Ghana, Haiti, Portugal, Syria and Uruguay.

In addition, the Committee has scheduled a review of the implementation of the Convention in a number of States parties whose initial report is seriously overdue. Those States parties are: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Congo, Mauritania and Saint Lucia.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled to be considered for review by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and the review of the implementation of the Convention in States parties whose reports are excessively overdue are set forth in the timetable below.

8. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fifty-second session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/340). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and which are pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be private.

10. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the fiftieth and fifty-first sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session. The Committee will have before it the relevant summary records of the Third Committee and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

During the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, this item was considered by the Third Committee. The Committee will have before it the following documents:

(i) Note of the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the report of the eighth meeting of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies (A/52/507);

(ii) Relevant summary records;

(iii) Relevant General Assembly resolutions.

11. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1994, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, and subsequently the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports, comments and further information submitted by States parties, for consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue pursuant to the review procedure, and for consideration of States parties pursuant to early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-first session.

Monday, 2 March 1997 (1245th and 1246th meetings)

Russian Federation 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodriguez)	Fourteenth periodic report, due in 1996 (CERD/C/299/Add.15)

Tuesday, 3 March 1997 (1247th and 1248th meetings)

Russian Federation	(continued)
Congo 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports, due in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1997
Mauritania 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Initial, second, third and fourth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996
Haiti 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Eighth and ninth periodic reports (CERD/C/195/Add.1), considered at the 879th meeting in 1990
Ghana 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Sadiq Ali)	Tenth and eleventh periodic reports (CERD/C/197/Add.7), considered at the 943rd and 944th meetings in 1992
Switzerland 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1995 and 1997, submitted in one document (CERD/C/270/Add.1)

Wednesday, 4 March 1998 (1249th and 1250th meetings)

Switzerland	(continued)
Papua New Guinea 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Initial report (CERD/C/101/Add.4), considered at the 666th meeting in 1984, and further considered at the 949th and 952nd meetings in 1992, the 1007th meeting in 1993, the 1060th meeting in 1994 and the 1242nd meeting in 1997

Israel 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Banton)	Seventh, eighth and ninth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/294/Add.1)

Thursday, 5 March 1998 (1251st and 1252nd meetings)

Israel	(continued)
Syria 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Agha Shahi)	Ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports (CERD/C/197/Add.6), considered at the 932nd meeting in 1991
Costa Rica 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Tenth and eleventh periodic reports (CERD/C/197/Add.8), considered at the 941st and 942nd meetings in 1992
Portugal 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Third and fourth periodic reports (CERD/C/179/Add.2), considered at the 895th and 896th meetings in 1991
Uruguay 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mrs. Zou)	Eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports (CERD/C/197/Add.3), considered at the 896th and 897th meetings in 1991
Netherlands 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth periodic reports, due in 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1997, submitted in one document (CERD/C/319/Add.2)

Friday, 6 March 1998 (1253rd and 1254th meetings)

Netherlands	(continued)
Democratic Republic of the Congo 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Tenth periodic report (CERD/C/278/Add.1), considered at the 1171st to 1173rd meetings in 1996, and further considered at the 1240th meeting in 1997
Czech Republic 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Diaconu)	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/289/Add.1)

Monday, 9 March 1998 (1255th and 1256th meetings)

Czech Republic	(continued)
Bangladesh 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Banton)	Fifth and sixth periodic reports (CERD/C/192/Add.3), considered at the 942nd and 943rd meetings in 1992
Antigua and Barbuda 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Diaconu)	Initial, second, third, fourth and fifth periodic reports due in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1997

Bahrain 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. van Boven)	Initial, second, third and fourth periodic reports due in 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1997
Saint Lucia 2/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	Initial, second, third and fourth periodic reports due in 1991, 1993, 1995 and 1997
Ukraine 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Wolfrum)	Thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.14)

Tuesday, 10 March 1998 (1257th and 1258th meetings)

Ukraine	(continued)
Bosnia and Herzegovina 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Sherifis)	Special report (CERD/C/247 and Add.1), considered at the 1082nd and 1092nd meetings in 1995, and further considered at the 1153rd and 1182nd meetings in 1996 and the 1236th meeting in 1997
Lebanon 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth periodic reports, due in 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/298/Add.2)

Wednesday, 11 March 1998 (1259th and 1260th meetings)

Lebanon	(continued)
Yugoslavia 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Rechetov)	Eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.17)

Thursday, 12 March 1998 (1261st and 1262nd meetings)

Yugoslavia	(continued)
Rwanda 3/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Banton)	Seventh periodic report (CERD/C/169/Add.1), considered at the 839th meeting in 1989, and further considered at the 1027th and 1045th meetings in 1994, the 1153rd meeting in 1996 and the 1212th meeting in 1997
Armenia 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Valencia Rodriguez)	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/289/Add.2)

Friday, 13 March 1998 (1263rd and 1264th meetings)

Armenia	(continued)
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Garvalov)	Eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/299/Add.13)

Monday, 16 March 1998 (1265th and 1266th meetings)

Cameroon 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. de Gouttes)	Tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth periodic reports, due in 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/298/Add.3)
Cambodia 1/ (Country rapporteur: Mr. Yutzis)	Second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh periodic reports, due in 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1996, submitted in one document (CERD/C/292/Add.2)

Tuesday, 17 March 1998 (1267th and 1268th meetings)

Cambodia	(continued)

Notes

1/ Periodic report.

2/ Review procedure (for States parties whose reports are seriously overdue).

3/ Early warning measures and urgent action procedures.